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24 JUL 1976

76-29409

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
 Deputy Director for Administration
Deputy Director for Intelligence
Deputy Director for Operations
Deputy Director for Science and Technology
General Counsel

SIC!

SUBJECT: Forthcoming Executive Advisory Group Meetings

1. On Wednesday, 21 July, we reviewed the topics proposed for Executive Advisory Group (EAG) consideration by members as summarized in my memorandum to the DDCI, "The Executive Advisory Group—Next Steps." Most of the topics identified in the memorandum were generally agreed to be of concern. With respect to one proposal concerned with "media and format for intelligence reporting," it was agreed that the EAG's interest in this area should await the conclusions of [redacted] study.

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2. In addition to the topics covered in the paper, Mr. Knoche noted that there were other issues of possible EAG concern, including: crises management, secrecy and compartmentation, the requirements process, Freedom of Information and Privacy Act implications, etc. He noted that he had found it useful to group the various issues proposed for discussion by the EAG into categories broadly concerned with defining Agency roles, improving our performance, overseeing and controlling our activities, setting goals and planning, and improving outside relationships.

3. At the end of the general discussion of issues, Mr. Knoche asked the EAG to focus initial work on five areas: the Inspector General's program, research and development, goals for CIA, special covert technical collection programs, and prospective changes in DDI and DCO activities. After the EAG has addressed these topics, it will consider the agenda for subsequent meetings drawing on the discussion

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of issues from meeting Number One and our evolving understanding of priority needs. Because of the importance of the work of the SIGINT Task Force, [redacted] the Chairman, will brief the EAG on this subject in late August.

4. Meeting Number Two - Tuesday, 27 July 1976,
Exploratory Research -- ORD. Our 21 July Executive Advisory Group meeting focused on several problems of concern in the R&D field. The ORD role in exploratory research and recently discussed plans for reorganizing the conduct of this activity was one of these. Mr. Dirks will discuss this question, including the value of this activity in support of other, more operationally relevant R&D, and the implications of proposed changes for other Agency components. Action - Mr. Dirks.

5. Meeting Number Three - Thursday, 5 August 1976,
The Inspector General Function. The Comptroller's 16 July memo, "The Executive Advisory Group Next Steps," highlighted the need for an Agency-level program review mechanism, "to protect against abuses, inappropriate departures from CIA's mission, and resource difficulties which will affect activities beyond immediate elements involved." A part of the solution to problems which may lie in this area must be found in the role and function of the Inspector General. Mr. Waller has been asked to brief the Executive Advisory Group on his detailed plans for the coming year with emphasis upon the extent to which his program can be relied upon to surface problems in need of top management attention. Action - Mr. Waller.

6. Meeting Number Four - Tuesday, 10 August 1976,
CIA Goals. Mr. Knoche agreed to table a proposed set of CIA goals for discussion by the members. Action - Mr. Knoche.

7. Meeting Number Five - Thursday, 12 August 1976,
The Agency's R&D Program. Mr. Dirks will summarize the present program (excluding exploratory programs discussed above) by discussing the functional areas in which R&D is being carried out, and relationships between customers for R&D activities and R&D managers. He will also discuss the planning mechanisms which help insure the relevance of the programs to our mission and identify problem areas for further consideration. Action - Mr. Dirks.

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8. Meeting Number Six - Tuesday, 17 August 1976,
Special Covert Technical Collection Programs. [redacted] 25X1A
(of the Office of the Comptroller) will describe existing
programs in this area with emphasis on the substantive problems
which merit priority attention, his own role, the roles of the
various components involved, and some of the problems which
have arisen.

9. Meeting Number Seven - Thursday, 19 August 1976,
DDO Plans. Mr. Wells will brief the Group on his plans concerning
changes within the DDO with particular attention to the objectives
of these changes and their implications for other CIA components.

10. Meeting Number Eight - Tuesday, 24 August 1976,
DDI Plans. [redacted] will discuss with the Group his tentative
thoughts on ways to enhance the production process. As above,
particular attention will be given to the impact of possible
proposed changes on other parts of CIA.

11. Meeting Number Nine - Thursday, 26 August 1976. 25X1A
Report on the SIGINT Task Force. Action - [redacted]

[redacted]
James H. Taylor
Secretary
Executive Advisory Group

cc: IG
SA/SI/Compt
Chairman, SIGINT Task Force
Executive Secretary

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